

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An assembly for housing shotgun shells, the assembly comprising:  
a container having a floor having two side lateral edges and a front and a rear lateral edge, two side walls mounted at the side lateral edges of the floor and a rear wall attached to the rear lateral edge of the floor so as to extend between the two side walls wherein the floor, the two side walls and the rear wall define a first recess and wherein the container has a first opening formed adjacent the front lateral edge of the floor between the two side walls that is sized so as to permit shotgun shells to be positioned in the first recess via the first opening;  
and  
a cover that defines a partially enclosed space that is sized to receive the container such that when the container is positioned within the partially enclosed space of the cover, the cover encloses the first opening in the container so as to prevent the shotgun shells positioned within the first recess from dislodging from the first recess.
2. The assembly of Claim 1, wherein the cover comprises a front panel, a rear panel, and two side panels connected to four edges of a rectangular shaped base panel such that the two side panels and the front and rear panels define an opening adjacent a plane located opposite from the base panel.
3. The assembly of Claim 2, wherein each of the two side panels defines a cutout adjacent the opening to facilitate grasping of the container positioned therein.
4. The assembly of Claim 3, wherein the cutout is semicircular in shape.
5. The assembly of Claim 4, wherein the semicircular cutout has a radius of approximately 5/8".
6. The assembly of Claim 2, wherein the dimension of the opening is larger than the dimension of the base panel so as to facilitate insertion of the container into the partially enclosed space.
7. The assembly of Claim 6, wherein each of the front, rear, and two side panels is oriented with respect to the base panel so as to form an angle of approximately 0.5 degree with respect to the normal of the base panel such that the opening is larger than the base panel.

8. The assembly of Claim 1, wherein the rear wall of the container comprises two rounded corners at locations opposite from the rear lateral edge of the floor, wherein the rounded corners facilitate insertion of the container into the cover.

5 9. The assembly of Claim 8, wherein each of the two rounded corners has a radius of curvature of approximately 0.375".

10. The assembly of Claim 1, wherein height of the two side walls is selected to be less than the height of the rear wall.

11. The assembly of Claim 10, wherein the height of the two side walls is selected such that the top of the two side walls is adjacent a height where the rounded corners of the rear wall end so as to permit the two side walls to be formed in a planar manner while being tall enough to retain the top layer of shotgun shells positioned within the first recess.

12. The assembly of Claim 11, wherein the height of the two side walls is approximately 3 3/4".

15 13. The assembly of Claim 1, further comprising a latching mechanism that latches the cover and the container together when the container is positioned within the cover and wherein the latching mechanism is configured to permit removal of the container from the partially enclosed space of the cover.

20 14. The assembly of Claim 13, wherein the latching mechanism comprises frictional engagement between the cover and container.

15. The assembly of Claim 14, wherein the opening of the cover being larger than the base panel permits the container to be inserted into the cover and frictionally engage when the container is near the fully inserted configuration.

25 16. The assembly of Claim 1, wherein the exterior side of the floor of the container defines an area with a surface adapted to receive labels for identification purposes.

17. The assembly of Claim 1, wherein the container and the cover are formed from plastic with thickness of approximately 0.06".

30 18. The assembly of Claim 17, wherein the container and the cover are dimensioned to hold 25 12-gauge 2-3/4" shotgun shells in a 5x5 configuration.

19. An assembly for housing shotgun shells, the assembly comprising:

a container having a floor having two side lateral edges and a front and a rear lateral edge, two side walls mounted at the side lateral edges of the floor and a rear wall attached to the rear lateral edge of the floor so as to extend between the two side walls wherein the floor, the two side walls and the rear wall define a first recess and wherein the container has a first opening formed adjacent the front lateral edge of the floor between the two side walls that is sized so as to permit shotgun shells to be positioned in the first recess via the first opening;

a cover that defines a partially enclosed space that is sized to receive the container such that when the container is positioned within the partially enclosed space of the cover, the cover encloses the first opening in the container so as to prevent the shotgun shells positioned within the first recess from dislodging from the first recess; and

a stand adapted to detachably hold the container at a first orientation to facilitate positioning of the shotgun shells in the first recess of the container.

20. The assembly of Claim 19, wherein the cover comprises a front panel, a rear panel, and two side panels connected to four edges of a rectangular shaped base panel such that the two side panels and the front and rear panels define an opening adjacent a plane located opposite from the base panel.

21. The assembly of Claim 20, wherein each of the two side panels defines a cutout adjacent the opening to facilitate grasping of the container positioned therein.

22. The assembly of Claim 21, wherein the cutout is semicircular in shape.

23. The assembly of Claim 22, wherein the semicircular cutout has a radius of approximately 5/8".

24. The assembly of Claim 23, wherein the dimension of the opening is larger than the dimension of the base panel so as to facilitate insertion of the container into the partially enclosed space. *fractional ang -*

25. The assembly of Claim 24, wherein each of the front, rear, and two side panels is oriented with respect to the base panel so as to form an angle of approximately 0.5 degree with respect to the normal of the base panel such that the opening is larger than the base panel.

26. The assembly of Claim 19, wherein the rear wall of the container comprises two rounded corners at locations opposite from the rear lateral edge of the floor, wherein the rounded corners facilitate insertion of the container into the cover.

27. The assembly of Claim 26, wherein each of the two rounded corners has a radius of curvature of approximately 0.375".

28. The assembly of Claim 19, wherein height of the two side walls is selected to be less than the height of the rear wall.

29. The assembly of Claim 28, wherein the height of the two side walls is selected such that the top of the two side walls is adjacent a height where the rounded corners of the rear wall end so as to permit the two side walls to be formed in a planar manner while being tall enough to retain the top layer of shotgun shells positioned within the first recess.

30. The assembly of Claim 29, wherein the height of the two side walls is approximately 3 3/4".

31. The assembly of Claim 19, further comprising a latching mechanism that latches the cover and the container together when the container is positioned within the cover and wherein the latching mechanism is configured to permit removal of the container from the partially enclosed space of the cover.

32. The assembly of Claim 31, wherein the latching mechanism comprises frictional engagement between the cover and container.

33. The assembly of Claim 32, wherein the opening of the cover being larger than the base panel permits the container to be inserted into the cover and frictionally engage when the container is near the fully inserted configuration.

34. The assembly of Claim 19, wherein the exterior side of the floor of the container defines an area with a surface adapted to receive labels for identification purposes.

35. The assembly of Claim 19, wherein the container and the cover are formed from plastic with thickness of approximately 0.06".

36. The assembly of Claim 35, wherein the container and the cover are dimensioned to hold 25 12-gauge 2-3/4" shotgun shells in a 5x5 configuration.

37. The assembly of Claim 19, wherein the stand comprises a platform supported by a first and a second leg, and a rear and a side retaining wall to permit the container to be removably mounted.

5 38. The assembly of Claim 37, wherein the first leg is longer than the second leg so as to orient the platform at a selected angle, wherein the container mounted thereon is biased towards the side retaining wall by gravity, wherein the angled orientation of the container facilitates stacking of shells in the first recess.

39. The assembly of Claim 38, wherein the selected angle is approximately 25 degrees with respect to a supporting surface.

10 40. A method of storing shotgun shells in a housing assembly comprising a container adapted to hold a plurality of shotgun shells and a cover adapted to receive the container such that when the container is received by the cover the shells held by the container is inhibited from being dislodged from the container, the method comprising:

15 positioning the shotgun shells in the container;  
positioning the cover relative to the container such that the container is received by the cover so as to permit storage of shotgun shells in the cover and container assembly.

20 41. The method of Claim 41, further comprising:  
accessing the shotgun shells by removing the container from the cover so as to transfer the shotgun shells from the container to the cover thereby exposing the shotgun shells for access.

42. The method of Claim 40, wherein positioning the shotgun shells in the container comprises stacking the shells to form alternating orientations of the shells such that brass base of one shell is adjacent to crimped end of a neighboring shell.